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Web-based Medical System Deployed by SPAWAR ITC

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NEW ORLEANS -- The Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command Information Technology Center successfully developed and deployed the Reserve Automated Medical Interim System (RAMIS), providing superior customer service to the Naval Reserve Force.

"With mobilization and the readiness as a top priority, headquarters needed to be able to push a button and get the information right now," explained Anne Reppert, Division Director.

RAMIS is a web-based system that was developed to replace the Reserve Standard Training, Administration, and Readiness Support Medical Module (RSTARS(MM)) in providing reserve units with a management tool for tracking, scheduling, and documenting various medical requirements including notification of required physicals, immunizations, and dental exams.

"RAMIS interfaces directly with the RHS (Reserve Headquarters System) pulling updated Unit and personnel data nightly," explained Parish. "In the past, if an individual moved to another unit, they would have to copy their information from the old system to a floppy and bring it with them to their next unit. Now as soon as the transfer occurs, the unit information is switched and everything is updated before the sailor gets to his new duty station."

RAMIS also provides the Naval Reserve Force with a means to calculate medical readiness assessment at the unit, command, and headquarters level. Although RSTARS (MM) provided much of this information, it was an outdated DOS-bases system that had to be maintained at the field level on a dedicated system providing no central source for the information when needed.

SPAWAR ITC developed a prototype and worked with the Naval Reserve Headquarters on development of the final system. "Finally everything started to come into place," explained Reppert.

Eager to begin, the RAMIS team promised the Naval Reserve to have the project completed by March 2002. "We did it within budget, and on time," exclaimed Reppert. The RAMIS team consists of Bob Parish, project manager; Kathy Roth, Ricky Heitmeier, and Keith Durapau from Science & Engineering Associates (SEA); Warren Eder with AAC, Associates; and Hasmukh Patel with Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC).

RAMIS resides on a web-server at the SPAWAR ITC in New Orleans allowing any adjustments or upgrades to be made just once instead of incurring the expense of mailing upgrades to each reserve unit for installation. This guarantees everyone is using the latest version. RAMIS also requires no additional hardware since it can be accessed from any desktop with a browser.

RAMIS provides an additional feature, the injury management capability which maintains information regarding injured reservists. In the past, all information regarding review board process, appeal process, amount of money paid for injuries, time spent out of service, and the amount of time remaining on grace periods was kept in paper format in the individual offices.

Currently, both RAMIS and RSTARS (MM) are working at some sites as the units complete the data entry for the injury management portion of the program. RSTARS(MM) is scheduled to be turned off by the end of June with RAMIS taking over full functions.